

Ann Morgan

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From: vtsdmailer@vt-s.net on behalf of mpj2202@gmail.com <vtsdmailer@vt-s.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2016 7:40 AM
To: Planning Department
Subject: ZBL 2016-1: Proposed Change to the Zoning By-Law: Medical Marijuana

MAR 10 2016

PLANNING BOARD
GRAFTON, MA

Public Hearing Comment Form

Submitted from the Town of Grafton website on Thursday, March 10, 2016 - 7:40am

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Choose a Project: ZBL 2016-1: Proposed Change to the Zoning By-Law: Medical Marijuana First Name: Mark Last Name: Johnson Email Address: mpj2202@gmail.com Street Address: 19 Hilltop St. City: N. Grafton

State: Massachusetts

Public Comment Disclaimer: I have read and understand the Public Comment Disclaimer

Comments:

Planning Board Members;

Some language contained in the current Massachusetts bill; Bill H.1561

A retail license would allow:

"selling same to adult consumers for consumption within the retail facility, or outside the retail facility, or both, as provided by the license, and such other activities as are reasonably required for safe, prudent and lawful sale of marijuana and marijuana products to adult consumers consistent with this chapter"

It appears that consuming product at or outside the facility will be allowed.
Public consumption will be regulated in the same manner as smoking cigarettes.

Conversion from Medical to Recreational:

"Section 17. Medical marijuana treatment centers. All entities registered by the department of public health as a medical marijuana treatment center or a registered marijuana dispensary, and in good standing, shall be issued a marijuana retail licenses for off-premises consumption as a matter of right, without regard to the quota provisions of section 17(c)(6)."

It seems that the current bill is planning on issuing recreational licenses to all existing medical marijuana dispensaries (providing they are in good standing).

Something else to look at:

"Section 19. Local Prohibition. A municipality may prohibit the operation of licensed cannabis facilities by ordinance or by-law; provided, however that upon petition of ten (10) registered voters said ordinance or by-law shall be presented to the voters for approval at the next biennial election. If a majority of voters fail to approve said ordinance or by-law, it shall not go into effect, or, if having gone into effect, be deemed repealed. Such petition shall be presented to city or town clerk, as the case may be, no later than 90 days prior to the biennial election next following."

Does this mean the Grafton must wait until the existing facility possesses a recreational license or can such an ordinance be be voted on prior?

Once again, I must urge both Boards to scrap the current proposed amendment as worded.

It does little more than "Kicking the Can...nabis down the road".

Focus on something more comprehensive to present to the Resident of Grafton.

Since there is no means to send info to both entities participating in the joint workshop, I will also send the same information to the Planning Board.

Regards,

Mark Johnson